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Free  
Purpose  
only

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :

Volker HILARIUS et al.

Group Art 1626  
Unit

Serial 09/866,926  
No.:

Examiner: Anderson

Filed: May 30, 2001

For: IONIC LIQUIDS

RESPONSE

Box: After Final  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
BOX 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed 11 February 2004, kindly  
consider the following:

The remarks beginning on page 2 of this amendment.

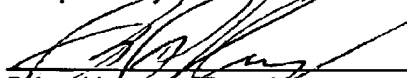
Neither JP-11-209583 nor JP 2000-17145 discloses alkyl substituents at the 1 and 3 positions of the imidazolium ring.

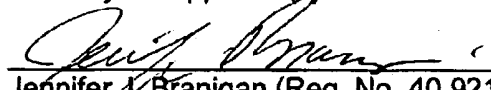
In view of the above remarks withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC 103(a) is respectfully requested.

It is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. However, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any unresolved matters.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Attorney Docket No.: Merck 2264  
Date: 10 June 2004